

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 254918

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, UNGA, KS, KN, PP

SUBJECT: KOREAN QUESTION IN THE 30TH UNGA

REF: PORT MORESBY 1108

1. FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL.

A. CHINESE IN UN SPEECHES LAST YEAR AND THIS YEAR HAVE CHARGED THAT U.S. TROOPS ARE MAIN SUPPORT OF ROKG AND THAT U.S. DESIRES TO RETAIN BASE IN KOREA. THEY HAVE ALSO CALLED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF "ALL FOREIGN TROOPS" IN KOREA WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC AS TO TIMING. YOU MAY TELL CONROY THAT WE DO NOT BELIEVE PRC CONSIDERS U.S. FORCES IN KOREA AS THREAT TO PRC. WHILE PEKING IS OBLIGED TO SUPPORT NORTH KOREA'S CALL FOR WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS, WE BELIEVE THAT NEITHER CHINA NOR USSR WANTS DESTABILIZATION IN KOREA.

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B. GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS ARE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ARE NOT BINDING. NEITHER RESOLUTION ASKS FOR SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION AND WE WOULD EXPECT NONE. THE ARMISTICE MACHINERY WILL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION REGARDLESS OF WHICH RESOLUTION IS PASSED UNLESS NORTH KOREA WOULD WITHDRAW FROM IT AND WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT. IF OUR RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED WE HOPE IT WILL, AS IS INTENDED, CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE WHICH ENCOURAGES THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED (SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA, THE PRC AND U.S.) TO MEET TO DISCUSS HOW THE UN

COMMAND CAN BE TERMINATED WHILE PRESERVING THE ARMISTICE AND OTHER MEASURES TO REDUCE TENSIONS WHICH ANY PARTY MAY WISH TO RAISE, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A LARGER CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS MORE LASTING ARRANGEMENTS ON THE PENINSULA. THE OTHER SIDE HAS REJECTED THE OFFER BUT WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE HAVE HAD THE LAST WORD FROM THEM ON THIS.

C. THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION IS DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN FORCES FROM THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND DENIES THE ROK ANY ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SECURITY OF THE PENINSULA. IT CONSISTENTLY SEEKS TO UNDERMINE OUR POSITION WHERE WE AND OTHER NON-COMMUNIST STATES IN THE AREA HAVE MAJOR SECURITY INTERESTS. WHILE PASSAGE OF THE RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE NO BINDING EFFECT IT WOULD NOT BE UNDERSTANDABLE TO US IF FRIENDLY STATES SHOULD ABSTAIN ON A RESOLUTION ADVERSE TO OUR INTERESTS. THE POSITIONS TAKEN ON THIS RESOLUTION CANNOT HELP BUT BE REFLECTED IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS.

D. YOU SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT THERE IS NO CONSISTENT NON-ALIGNED POSITION ON KOREA. NON-ALIGNED STATES ARE COSPONSORS OF OUR RESOLUTION AND OTHERS WILL SUPPORT IT.

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